

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 192110
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR:WHLUERS:RAH
APPROVED BY EUR:WHLUERS
S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

-----018789 291900Z /45

R 291809Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192110

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, PL, US

SUBJECT: SPASOWSKI/LUERS CONVERSATION ON BILATERAL ISSUES

1. SUMMARY: AT AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI'S REQUEST, DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY LUERS HAD TWO-HOUR LUNCH AT THE RESIDENCE JULY 28. DISCUSSION CENTERED ON BILATERAL ISSUES INCLUDING DIVIDED FAMILIES, HIGH LEVEL VISITS, AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION, WEATHER INFORMATION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES. GENERAL IMPRESSION LUERS TOOK FROM CONVERSATION WAS THAT US-POLISH RELATIONS ARE IN A SLIGHT DECLINE IN VIEW OF INTERNAL POLISH PROBLEMS, DEBT AND TRADE DIFFICULTIES, AND STATE OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. SPASOWSKI OUTLINED IN GENERAL TERMS HIS DISCUSSIONS ON DIVIDED FAMILIES IN WARSAW IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND WITH GIEREK. HE SAID HE WOULD BE GIVING A MORE FORMAL REPLY TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST ON MONDAY AT LUNCH ON THE DIVIDED FAMILIES ISSUE. HE ALSO PLANS TO COVER WITH ASSISTANT
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SECRETARY VEST MULTILATERAL ISSUES INCLUDING US-SOVIET RELATIONS, BONN SUMMIT, AND THE UNIFICATION OF GERMANY, WHICH HE IS RAISING ON INSTRUCTIONS. DEPARTMENT WILL REPORT THESE MATTERS SEPARATELY NEXT WEEK.

3. ON HIGH LEVEL VISITS, SPASOWSKI MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

(A) FOREIGN MINISTER WOJTASZEK IS CONSIDERING VISITING WASHINGTON SEPT 21 TO 25 AND WOULD LIKE A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY AT THAT TIME. IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY IN NEW YORK BETWEEN SEPT 26 AND 30 DURING UNGA DEBATE. WOJTASZEK SPEAKS ON SEPT 28. SPASOWSKI HINTED WOJTASZEK WOULD WELCOME AN INVITATION TO WASHINGTON TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY. WE ARE LOOKING INTO THIS.

(B) POLITBUREAU MEMBER AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SZYDLAK WILL BE VISITING NEW YORK AUGUST 1 AND 2 ON HIS WAY BACK TO POLAND FROM THE HAVANA YOUTH FESTIVAL. HE MIGHT COME TO WASHINGTON, BUT DOES NOT PLAN OFFICIAL TALKS WITH USG.

(C) DEPUTY FINANCE MINISTER BIEN WILL ARRIVE AUGUST 19 AND HAVE MEETINGS AUGUST 20 THROUGH 23 WITH HOST FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIRMAN MILLER AND OTHERS.

(D) THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH SECRETARY KREPS ON MONDAY, JULY 31, WHETHER NOVEMBER 8-9 IS A GOOD TIME FOR THE JOINT COMMISSION MEETING, FOLLOWING SO SHORTLY AFTER U.S. ELECTIONS.

4. SPASOWSKI SPOKE AT LENGTH ABOUT PROJECT FOR UPGRADING POLISH POTATO PRODUCTION WHICH IS BEING WORKED OUT WITH FMC. FMC WILL BE SENDING A DELEGATION IN AUGUST TO SEE
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WHAT STEPS CAN BE INITIATED ON A PILOT PROJECT ON POTATOES FOR THIS NEXT CROP. SPASOWSKI STRESSED THAT THIS PROJECT CANNOT COST THE POLISH GOVERNMENT ANY HARD CURRENCY AND HOPES THAT FMC OR EVEN EXIM BANK CAN PROVIDE LOANS FOR THE BEGINNING PHASES WHICH WILL COST LESS THAN DOLS ONE MILLION. SPASOWSKI SAID POLES ARE ALSO TALKING TO SWIFT ABOUT POULTRY PRODUCTION AND TO JOHN DEERE ABOUT A MECHANIZATION PROJECT, ALL ON A SMALL PILOT PROJECT BASIS. AS A BACK-DROP TO THESE DISCUSSIONS, SPASOWSKI STRESSED THAT POLAND IS STRAPPED FINANCIALLY AND CANNOT AFFORD INVESTMENT IN PROJECTS WITH THE WEST. HE SAID CUT-BACKS IN IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS ARE ALREADY AFFECTING SERIOUSLY SOME ASPECTS OF THE ECONOMY. HE MENTIONED THE FACT THAT OIL PAINT IS UNAVAILABLE IN WARSAW SINCE THE FACTORIES HAVE SHUT DOWN DUE TO LACK OF IMPORTS. HE PREDICTED THE SITUATION IS GOING TO GET WORSE OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

5. SPASOWSKI THEN DISCUSSED HIS MAJOR PROJECTS OVER THE NEXT MONTHS WHICH WILL BE IN THE FIELD OF CULTURAL EXCHANGES. HE HAS ALREADY DISCUSSED WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY POSSIBILITY OF A SMALL EXHIBIT OF POLISH PAINTINGS, POSSIBLY INCLUDING ONE REMBRANDT

AS WELL FROM THE POLISH COLLECTION,WHICH TOGETHER WITH PAINTINGS IN THE U.S. COULD MAKE UP A SMALL SHOW OF POLISH 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY PAINTINGS. HE IS ALSO WORKING HARD TO DEVISE WAYS TO EXPAND THE SALE OF POLISH ART IN THIS COUNTRY, INCLUDING PAINTINGS, RUGS, SILVER AND GLASS.

6. SPASOWSKI POINTEDLY SAID HE WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT MENTIONING ADDITIONAL US CREDITS FOR AGRICULTURAL AND OTHER U.S. PRODUCTS AND MENTIONED NOTHING ABOUT JOINT VENTURES IN MINING. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT GIEREK IS NOW THINKING ABOUT WHETHER PLANNING ON A VISIT TO THE U.S. SHOULD BE MOVED FROM LATE 1979 TO 1980. THE THRUST OF SPASOWSKI'S COMMENTS,AND CONFIRMED BY A DIRECT QUESTION FROM LUERS, CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS THAT,PARTICULARLY IN THE TRADE AND ECONOMIC AREA, THERE WOULD BE A TURN-DOWN IN U.S.-POLISH RELATIONS WHICH WAS A REFLECTION OF POLISH DEBTS AND INTERNAL PROBLEMS, BUT ALSO AFFECTED BY THE CLIMATE IN US-SOVIET RELATIONS. SPASOWSKI STRESSED THAT THE EFFORTS HE WAS GOING TO MAKE WOULD BE IN THE FIELD OF CULTURAL AND SMALL AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS COSTING NO MONEY. HE WAS CHARACTERISTICALLY THOROUGH AND GENTLEMANLY, BUT THE CLEAR MESSAGE WAS THAT ALTHOUGH POLAND STILL WANTS GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE U.S., CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATED A SLIGHT TEMPERING, PARTICULARLY IN THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE AREA. IT SEEMS EVIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT THIS TEMPERING IS LIKELY TO AFFECT SOME OF THE POLITICAL CLIMATE AS WELL.

7. SPASOWSKI ASKED LUERS WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE U.S. TO PROVIDE POLAND WITH METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION DURING THE MONTHS OF AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER THAT WOULD ASSIST THE POLES WITH THEIR HARVEST. WE WILL DISCUSS THIS WITH NASA WHICH IS THE RESPONSIBLE AGENCY.

8. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS ON THE IMPRESSION GLEANED FROM SPASOWSKI (PARA 6). VANCE

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY:EUR:WHLUERS
APPROVED BY:EUR:WHLUERS
S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH
-----028372 010304Z /64
R 010132Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0000

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192110

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 192110 ACTION WARSAW 29 JUL.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192110

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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ORIG DIST: SS-25/ISO,SSO,NSCE,CIAE,INRE,,

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780312-0243
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978075/aaaaaehe.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
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Retention: 0
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1978472
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPASOWSKI/LUERS CONVERSATION ON BILATERAL ISSUES
TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, PL, US, (LUERS, WILLIAM H), (SPASOWSKI)
To: WARSAW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/10e2f071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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